

26th Judicial District SelfServe Center

ABSOLUTE DIVORCE

NOTE:

THIS PACKET CONTAINS INFORMATION REGARDING A SIMPLE DIVORCE. THERE ARE NO FORMS OR INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS PACKET FOR SPOUSAL SUPPORT OR DIVISION OF MARITAL PROPERTY. IF YOU OBTAIN A DIVORCE WITHOUT FIRST PROPERLY FILING FOR OR OBTAINING THE APPROPRIATE SPOUSAL SUPPORT OR PROPERTY DIVISION, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHTS. IF YOU ARE SEEKING THESE RIGHTS, PLEASE CONSULT WITH A LAWYER.

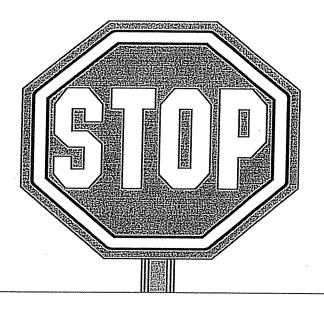
DUE TO THE CHANGING NATURE OF THE LAW, the forms and instructions contained in this packet may become outdated. You should review and research statutes and rules of procedure referenced in the instructions to ensure that the forms are accurate and current.

IN NO EVENT will the SelfServe Center Staff, Clerk of Court or anyone contributing to the production of these forms, instructions or guidelines be liable for any indirect or consequential damages resulting from use of the forms or information provided to you by the SelfServe Center.

IF THERE ARE ANY QUESTIONS in your mind concerning these forms, or your legal rights, it is strongly recommended that you consult with an attorney.

USE THESE FORMS AT YOUR OWN RISK. THESE FORMS MAY OR MAY NOT BE APPROPRIATE IN YOUR PARTICULAR CASE. ANY DESIRED OUTCOME FROM THE USE OF THESE FORMS CANNOT BE PREDICTED OR GUARANTEED. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU SEEK LEGAL ADVICE!

Filing Fees are regulated by the North Carolina General Assembly, and are subject to change. Please consult with the Staff of the Civil Filing Department or the SelfServe Center for the most up to date fees.



PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY.

THESE ARE EDUCATIONAL FORMS DESIGNED TO ASSIST YOU, BUT YOU ARE REPRESENTING YOURSELF. PLEASE REVIEW AND FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS TO IMPROVE YOUR PERFORMANCE IN YOUR CASE. FAILURE TO READ AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY ADVERSELY IMPACT YOUR CLAIM.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE MAY BE OBTAINED THROUGH OUR WEB-BASED SERVICE "I-CAN" WHICH GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE PROPER COMPLETION OF THE FORMS AND PROVIDES STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR WHAT TO DO AFTERWARDS.

INTRODUCTION

What is this?

This packet of information is provided for individuals who wish to pursue a case without the assistance of an attorney. This is called a *pro se* or self represented case. If you are not sure that you want or need to go to court, please ask the Self Serve Center staff to direct you to a lawyer referral service or list of local attorneys willing to provide "unbundled services" (representation for a limited portion of a case at an hourly rate).

How will it help me?

If you do not plan to use an attorney, this packet will start the process for you by providing certain forms you will need. Since you are representing yourself, it is YOUR responsibility to ensure that these are the correct forms for the nature of your case. Therefore, you should review and research *applicable laws* and *rules of procedure* that apply to your type of case. If you are not able to do this, you should talk with an attorney. If at any point during the process you become confused or wish to proceed with the help of an attorney, contact the Mecklenburg County Bar Lawyer Referral Service at (704) 375-0120 or the North Carolina Bar Lawyer Referral Service at (800) 662-7660.

What does this mean?

Certain legal terms will be used throughout your case. A complete legal glossary is available for your convenience in the SelfServe Center. If you still do not understand the term, consult a legal dictionary or the SelfServe Center staff. Staff CANNOT provide legal advice, but can provide procedural information and definitions of legal terms.

What is an Absolute Divorce?

An Absolute Divorce is a complete divorce that allows the parties to marry again after their divorce has become final. State law REQUIRES that the parties be separated for one year prior to filing for divorce. An Absolute Divorce begins when a document called a *Complaint* is filed. The laws (or *statutes*) that control divorce proceedings in North Carolina are found in Chapter 50 of the North Carolina General Statutes. Please review this section. It can be found in the SelfServe Center, at *www.ncga.state.nc.us* and the local library [310 North Tryon Street, (704) 416-0100].

Can or should I file for an Absolute Divorce?

Please note that the SelfServe Center staff CANNOT provide legal advice. Therefore, we cannot tell you if you should file or what you should file, but we can tell you that you must meet certain criteria to be eligible. The *Plaintiff* is the person beginning the divorce proceedings against the *Defendant*, who is the spouse (husband/wife) of the Plaintiff. The Plaintiff may file a Complaint for divorce in North Carolina IF the Plaintiff or his/her spouse has been a resident of North Carolina for at least 6 months prior to the filing. The couple also must have lived continuously separate and apart for at least one year before the divorce can be filed.

What do I do first?

- 1. After you get the packet, READ THE INSTRUCTIONS! Then fill out the forms by typing or printing *neatly* in ink. You may fill them out at home or at the courthouse. Please read the forms carefully as some have a "Verification" page. This means that they MUST be signed in the presence of a Notary Public. If the document does require verification, do not sign until you are in front of a Notary. They can be likely found at banks, insurance agencies and law firms. A few may also be found in the Yellow Pages. Notaries often charge a small fee and require you to show a picture ID for their services. Be sure to have your documents already notarized when you take them to the Clerk's Office to file.
- 2. The SelfServe Center has a video available on filing for an absolute divorce. It is suggested that you view it for procedural information.
- 3. After the forms are filled out and notarized, you must make <u>2 COPIES</u> (one for yourself and one for the other party, keeping the original for the file).
- 4. Please make sure that you have cash or a money order to pay for the filing fee associated with the action you are seeking to file. Personal checks are not accepted. If the defendant lives outside of Mecklenburg County, pay the service of process fee to the sheriff of the county where the defendant resides. (Please refer to the "Service of Process" sheet in this packet for more information).
- 5. Take your completed forms, 2 copies, filing fee, and fee for the Sheriff to serve (if desired) to the Civil Filing Department (Clerk's Office) at 832 E. Fourth Street, Room 3725.
- 6. Please remember that if you are a female and would like to resume a former name (maiden or name of former husband with whom you have living children) then you may do so at this time. If you are a male and would like to resume your premarriage surname you may do so at this time. Simply write the name you would like to resume on Judgment of Divorce form on line 7.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Your case involves complicated legal issues! Note that your divorce will also terminate your rights to any equitable distribution of marital property and to post-separation support and/or alimony UNLESS such claims have already been determined or have been properly filed prior to the entry of the divorce judgment.

This packet describes the general process, but it is impossible to cover everything that may affect your rights. If you get confused during the process, you should stop and get advice from an attorney. Judges, Clerk of Court, SelfServe Center staff or the Trial Court Administrator's Office CANNOT give you legal advice.

Step One

Review Your Documents

Review your forms to make sure that you have the necessary documents to complete this divorce process.

Set One:

- I. Domestic Civil Action Cover Sheet
- II. Civil Summons*
- III. Complaint for Divorce
- IV. Complaint for Divorce Verification
- V. Servicemembers Civil Relief Act Affidavit 50 U.S.C App §§ 501 597b

Set Two:

- I. Defendant's Answer to Divorce Complaint and Waiver
- II. Defendant's Acceptance of Service of Process and General Appearance
- III. Affidavit of Service by Certified Mail (not necessary)

Set Three:

- I. Motion Cover Sheet
- II. Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing
- III. Certificate of Absolute Divorce and Annulment **
- IV. Judgment of Divorce

*NOTE: If you need another copy of the Summons, it may be obtained at www.nccourts.org. Click on the word "forms" at the top center of the page and then type in the form number "CV-100" (Summons).

Step Two:

Complete "Set One" Forms

- I. Domestic Civil Action Cover Sheet: Fill this out and set it aside.
- II. Civil Summons: Fill this out and set it aside.
- III. Complaint for Divorce: Fill this out and set it aside.
- IV. Complaint for Divorce Verification: This must be completed in the presence of a Notary Public.
- V. Affidavit Servicemembers Civil Relief Act 50 U.S.C App §§ 501 597b: <u>This must be completed in the presence of a Notary Public.</u>

Step Three:

Photocopying "Set One" Documents

Make two (2) copies of each document contained in "Set One" of your forms. Copies can be made for a fee in the Civil Files Office, Room 3342.

Step Four:

Filing "Set One" Documents and Receiving Your Case Number

<u>Filing:</u> Take the original "Set One" documents, both copies of the documents, and the filing fee to the Civil Filing Department at 832 E. Fourth St., Room 3725 for filing. The filing fee may be paid in cash or with a money order. Money orders may be obtained either from the post office, bank, Wal-Mart or a check cashing store. Debit cards are acceptable.

<u>Case Number</u>: At this time a case number will be assigned to your divorce. <u>Until you receive</u> that number from the clerk, leave the upper right hand corner of the documents blank. <u>Once you have been assigned a case number, please make a note of it and print or type it on the upper right hand corner of ALL of your papers filed with the court in this case.</u>

Step Five:

Service of Process

Service of Process Defined: Once you have filed the documents in "Set One" with the Clerk's Office to initiate your divorce, you must "serve" (give notice to) your spouse of the divorce action. <u>ATTENTION:</u> YOU CANNOT SERVE THE PAPERS ON YOUR SPOUSE UNTIL YOU HAVE FILED THEM IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE.

There Are Three Available Methods to complete Service of Process:

1. BOTH PARTIES MEET AT A NOTARY:

- I. "Set Two Forms":
 - a. Defendant's Acceptance of Service of Process and General Appearance: Place your name on the "Plaintiff" line and the name of your spouse on the "Defendant" line.
 - b. **Defendant's Answer to Divorce Complaint and Waiver:** Place your name on the "Plaintiff" line and the name of your spouse on the "Defendant" line.
- II. Provide defendant with: "Acceptance of Service of Process and General Appearance" and "Defendant's Answer to Divorce Complaint and Waiver".
- III. Request that he/she:
 - a. Fill them out (including the case number)
 - b. Have them properly notarized.
 - c. File them in the Clerk's Office (Room 3725).
 - NOTE: Your spouse (Defendant) may not file these documents before or at the time you (Plaintiff) file the initial Complaint. The Defendant must wait until AFTER the Plaintiff has filed the initial Complaint to file his/her documents.
- IV. Once the Defendant has filed both of these documents, no other notification need be given to him/her at this point.
- V. Please read the instructions in this packet on setting your court date, the Certificate of Absolute Divorce, Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing, Judgment of Divorce and Certification of Forms. You may proceed with this last portion 33 days after the date the Defendant signed his/her documents (Acceptance of Service and Waiver) before a Notary Public.

2. SERVICE OF PROCESS BY SHERIFF:

- I. If the Defendant lives in North Carolina and will not accept service of process, you may pay a \$30.00 service fee per party served to the sheriff in the county where the spouse resides to serve the papers.
 - a. If Spouse (Defendant) lives in Mecklenburg County:
 - i. Take the <u>Civil Summons</u> and <u>Complaint for Divorce</u> (Found in "Set One") to the Clerk's Office, Room 3725, when you file for divorce. The summons should include the most recent address of your spouse and any other information that will help the sheriff's office locate him/her. These will be stamped and filed by the clerk. The Clerk's office *may* deliver the documents to the sheriff for you. *Sometimes*, you must take the stamped documents (Summons and Complaint) and the \$30 dollar payment to the sheriff (700 East Fourth St. Charlotte, NC 28202). In either case, be sure to keep a copy of these documents.
 - ii. After delivering these documents to the sheriff, he/she will keep a copy of the summons detailing how the Complaint and Summons were delivered to the defendant. The sheriff's deputy will then file this information with the clerk of court.
 - iii. In order to determine if the sheriff was successful or unsuccessful in serving your spouse, you must check in person with the Clerk of Court (Room 3725). Your case cannot be heard in court if your spouse has not been notified of the divorce action. You may also call the Mecklenburg Sheriff's Office at 704-336-2543 to determine if service was successful.

b. If Spouse (Defendant) DOES NOT live in Mecklenburg County:

- i. If the Defendant does not live in Mecklenburg County, you must mail or deliver the Summons and Complaint to the sheriff in the county where your spouse is located. The Summons should include the most recent address of your spouse and any other information that will help the sheriff's office locate him/her. You should include a certified check or money order for the fee for service made payable to the sheriff of that county. Contact the sheriff's office in the county where your spouse is located to determine the fees and procedures associated with service of process.
- ii. If you wish to send your paperwork to the sheriff's office to be served, you should send it by certified mail return receipt requested to provide proof that your service request was received.
- iii. In order to find out if the sheriff was successful or unsuccessful in serving your spouse, you must check **in person** with the clerk of court (Room 3725). Your case cannot be heard in court if the defendant has not been notified of your divorce action. You may also be able to contact the sheriff's office over the phone to confirm whether or not service was successful.

3. SERVICE OF PROCESS BY CERTIFIED MAIL:

- i. Service of Process by certified mail can be completed within the state and outside of the state, but within the US, by mailing a copy of the Summons and Complaint by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to your spouse and delivered to his/her address (or the address of the location where he/she can be contacted by mail). A postal worker can help you fill out the necessary forms for certified mailing. If you choose this method of service, you must file an Affidavit of Service of Process by Certified or Registered Mail when you receive the return receipt (the "green card"). You must attach the original return receipt to your affidavit. (Please consult an attorney if your spouse is in the military or lives in another country)
- ii. The Affidavit of Service must be taken to and signed in the presence of a Notary Public.
- iii. After the Affidavit of Service by Certified Mail has been notarized, take it to the Clerk of Court/Civil Department, Room 3725, and file it.

II. <u>Service of Process by Publication:</u> You <u>Do Not Know</u> Where Your Spouse Is (THIS SHOULD BE YOUR LAST RESORT)

a. If you do not know where your spouse is located, you will need to serve him/her by "publication." If you know where your spouse is or can find out his/her address, this process should not be used. Publication is a complex process using the newspaper to post notice of the divorce. You should speak to an attorney regarding this type of service. You can find a list of available attorneys and their fees at the SelfServe office (Room 3350).

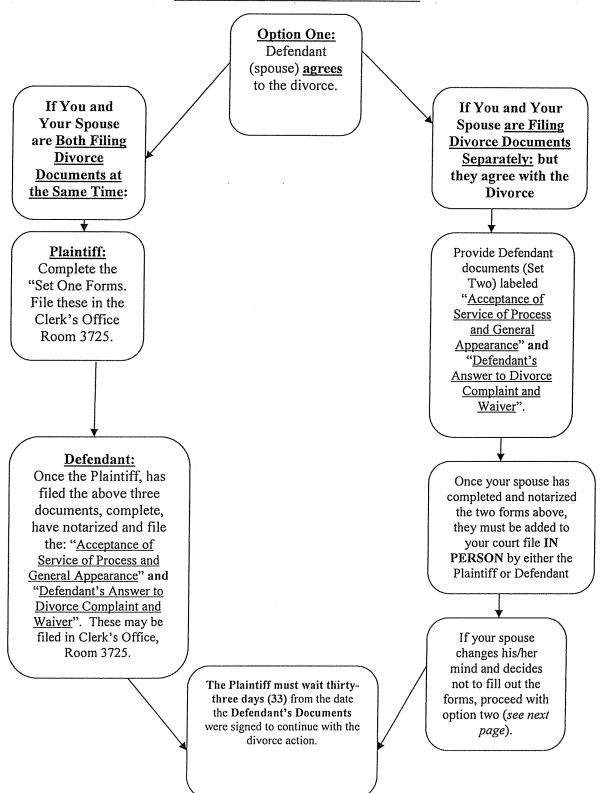
Lawyer Referral Services:

Mecklenburg County Bar Lawyer Referral Service: (704) 375-0120 or www.meckbar.org
North Carolina Lawyer Referral Service: (800) 662-7660

***REMEMBER: After Service of Process by one of the previous three processes has been successfully completed, you must wait 33 days from the date of service in order to give your spouse an opportunity to file an "Answer" (response) to the Complaint.

- Service of Process MUST be completed within 60 days of the original filing of your documents. If Service of Process is NOT completed within this time, your Complaint will be dismissed and you will have to start the process over, possibly paying the filing fees again.
- If you are using service by sheriff, you must contact the sheriff after 45 days to make sure service has been completed. You can contact the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office at (704) 336-2543.
- If service of process cannot be completed within 60 days of the original filing, you will need to ask for an endorsement. This is found at the bottom left of the Civil Summons. You must go back to the Clerk's Office to receive the endorsement. This will give you an additional 60 days to serve the defendant(s) with your documents. You can receive an unlimited number of endorsements, but you must continue to request them within the proper time frame until service is complete.

SERVICE OF PROCESS: HOW TO NOTIFY YOUR SPOUSE OF YOUR DIVORCE ACTION



Step Six:

Setting a Date For Your Case to Proceed:

- 1. In order to receive a court date, your file must include the following <u>five</u> documents and <u>two</u> stamped and addressed envelopes:
 - a. Proof of Service of Process: This could be either:
 - i. <u>Affidavit of Service of Process by Certified Mail</u> "Found in Set Two" (if you served the original documents by certified mail)
 OR
 - ii. <u>Defendant's Acceptance of Service of Process and General Appearance</u> and <u>Defendant's Answer to Divorce Complaint and Waiver</u> "Found in Set Two" (if they were notarized and filed by the defendant)
 - iii. Return by Sheriff of successful service of process on your spouse
 - b. Certificate of Absolute Divorce (<u>Must be completed in Black Ink</u>) "Found in Set Three"
 - i. This form is required by the State of North Carolina and is in this packet.
 - ii. The original and one copy of this form must be completed and given to the clerk at the time you file for the divorce or when you set your hearing date.

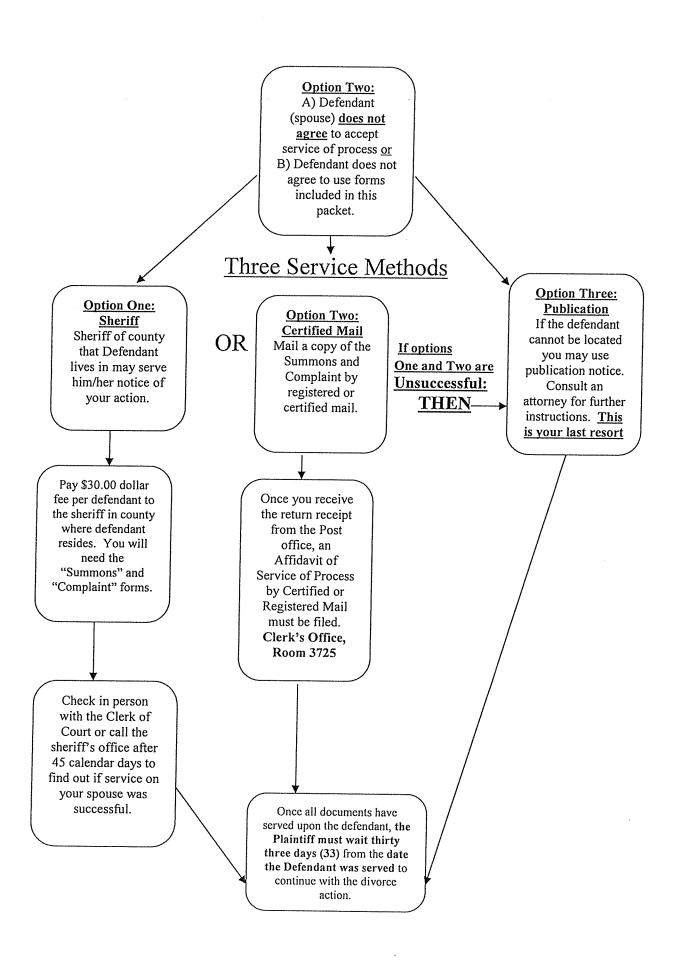
<u>ATTENTION:</u> If the Certificate of Absolute Divorce is not filled out or is not filled out accurately and completely in black ink, the judges WILL NOT sign your divorce.

- c. Motion Cover Sheet and Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing "Found in Set Three"
 - i. You may take this form to the clerk to get a hearing date after:
 - 1. Your spouse has filed a responsive pleading agreeing to the terms of the Complaint (Waiver and Acceptance of Service forms found in "Set Two");
 - 2. Your spouse has failed to file a responsive pleading and has not requested an extension; or
 - 3. Your spouse has requested an extension and failed to respond within the extra time granted by the extension

<u>ATTENTION:</u> After you receive a court date from the Clerk of Court, you must mail a copy of this document to the other party by 1st Class US Mail.

**Please note that the date set for the case at the clerk's office MUST BE AT LEAST 13 DAYS from the date the Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing Form is received by your spouse.

- d. Judgment of Divorce "Found in Set Three"
 - i. This form is for the judge to use to make his/her final ruling.



1. You should insert the names of the parties and the case number and complete numbers three, six and complete number seven <u>only</u> if you are resuming a maiden name.

<u>ATTENTION</u>: If you would like to <u>resume your maiden name</u> or <u>the name of a former spouse with whom you have living children</u>, you may do so. If you would like to request resumption of a previous name, please insert the name you would like to resume on the line in item 7 on the Judgment of Divorce.

- e. One Self-addressed, stamped envelope (so your divorce can be mailed to you)
- f. One stamped envelope addressed to your spouse (so your spouse receives notice of your divorce). <u>YOU are responsible</u> for mailing your spouse a copy of the divorce.
- 2. Once all of the above documents are included in your file and you have <u>paid the Motion fee</u>, the Clerk of Court will assign you a hearing date and time on the <u>Motion for Summary Judgment</u> and <u>Notice of Hearing Form</u>. <u>There is no formal session of court on the date of your hearing; a judge will simply review your file and determine if a divorce is proper.</u>
 - a. Remember, you must mail your spouse a copy of the Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing Form. It must arrive to him/her at least 13 days before your hearing date.

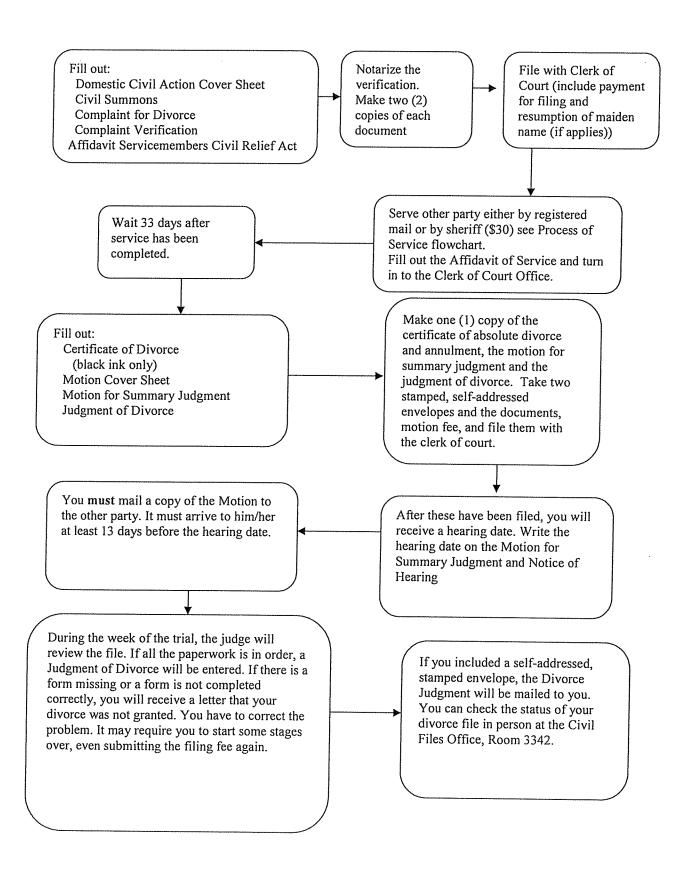
Step Seven: The Divorce Decision

During the week your case has been scheduled for by the Clerk of Court, the judge will review your file. There is no need to contact the court or judge about your file. If all of the documents are in the file and completed properly, a Judgment of Divorce will be entered. If you did not properly complete the forms, if you are missing a form, or if you do not meet the criteria enabling you to file (e.g. you have not been separated for one year or more at the time of filing and/or one or both spouses have not lived in NC for the 6 months prior to filing) you will receive a letter from the court explaining why your divorce was not granted. It is your responsibility to determine why your divorce was not granted and to take the necessary steps to correct the problem. This may require you to go back and complete some or all of the stages over again and may also require you to submit the filing fee again. If you have any questions about the divorce, you are advised to speak to an attorney.

Remember, your file will be given to the judge for review. There is no specific time or date for you to be present for your case. Please do not plan to be at court or call the judges' office about this matter.

Step Eight:Checking the Status of Your Divorce Decision

If you have included a self-addressed and stamped envelope in your file, the decision will be mailed to you. If you wish to check the status of your divorce file in person, the Civil Files Office, Room 3342, is the appropriate location. The divorce decision will be kept in an organizer labeled "Signed Divorce Judgment" in the Civil Files Office for four months after the divorce decision has been made. After this point, the divorce decision will be on file in the Civil Files Office and may be retrieved upon request at a cost of 25 cents per page and three dollars for a certified copy with a seal.



Set One Documents:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	File No.
County	In The General Court Of Justice
Name And Address Of Plainliff 1	District Court Division
	DOMESTIC
Name And Address Of Plaintiff 2	CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET
- And And Addition of President 2	☐ INITIAL FILING ☐ SUBSEQUENT FILING
-	
	Rule 5(b), Rules of Practice For Superior and District Court
VERSUS	Jury Demanded In Pleading? No Yes
	Name And Address Of Attorney Or Party, If Not Represented (complete for initial appearance or change of address)
immons Submitted Yes No	
ame Of Defendant 2	Telephone No. Cellular Telephone No.
	NC Attorney Bar No. Attorney E-Mail Address
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unsel for All Plaintiffs All Defendants Only (List party(ies) represented)	FAX No.
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TYPE OF PLEADING	CLAIMS FOR RELIEF
(check all that apply) Amended Answer/Reply (AMND-Response)	(check all that apply)
Amended Answer/Reply (AlviND-Response) Amended Complaint (AMND)	Alimony (ALIM)
Answer/Reply (ANSW-Response)	Annulment (ANUL)
Complaint (COMP)	☐ Child Support (CSUP) ☐ Custody (CUST)
Confession Of Judgment (CNFJ)	Divorce (DIVR)
Contempt (CNTP)	Divorce From Bed And Board (DIVB)
Continue (CNTN)	Domestic Violence (DOME)
Compel (CMPL)	Equitable Distribution (EQUD)
Counterclaim vs. (CTCL) Assess Counterclaim Costs	☐ Medical Coverage (MEDC)
Extend Time For An Answer (MEOT-Response)	☐ Paternity (PATR)
Modification Of Alimony (MALI)	Possession Of Personal Property (POPP)
Modification Of Custody (MCUS)	Post Separation Support (PSSU)
Modification Of Support in non-IV-D cases (MSUP) Modification Of Visitation (MVIS)	Reimbursement For Public Assistance (RPPA)
Rule 12 Motion In Lieu Of Answer (MDLA)	☐ Visitation (VIST)
Sanctions (SANC)	Other: (specify and list separately)
Show Cause (SHOW)	
Transfer (TRFR)	
/acate/Modify Judgment or Order (VCMD)	
Other (OTHR):	

NOTE: All filings in civil actions shall include as the first page of the filing a cover sheet summarizing the critical elements of the filing in a format prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Clerk of Superior Court shall require a party to refile a filing which does not include the required cover sheet. For subsequent filings in civil actions, the filing party must include a Domestic (AOC-CV-750), Motions (AOC-CV-752), or Court Action (AOC-CV-753) cover sheet.

AOC-CV-750, Rev. 1/14

	In The	General Court Of Justice ☐ Superior Court Division
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Other manner of ser	vice (specify)				
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By delivering to the delivering a copy of the person of suitable age. As the defendant is a below. Name And Address Of Personal Control of Service.	efendant named above the summons and compete and discretion then recorporation, service was son With Whom Copies Left (i	AM [a a copy of the plaint at the desiding therein as effected by a corporation, given	PM summo	ns and complaint. Touse or usual place	
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By delivering to the delivering a copy of the person of suitable age. As the defendant is a below. Name And Address Of Personal Control of Service.	efendant named above the summons and compete and discretion then recorporation, service was son With Whom Copies Left (i	AM [a a copy of the plaint at the desiding therein as effected by a corporation, given	PM summo	ns and complaint. Touse or usual place	
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By delivering to the delivering a copy of the person of suitable age. As the defendant is a below. Name And Address Of Personal Control of Service. Other manner of Service. Defendant WAS NOT service.	efendant named above the summons and compete and discretion then recorporation, service was son With Whom Copies Left (i	AM [a a copy of the plaint at the desiding therein as effected by a corporation, given	PM summon welling had been been been been been been been bee	ns and complaint. Touse or usual place	nmons and complaint to the person named
By delivering to the delivering a copy of the person of suitable age. As the defendant is a below. Name And Address Of Personal Control of Service.	efendant named above the summons and compete and discretion then recorporation, service was son With Whom Copies Left (i	AM [a a copy of the plaint at the desiding therein as effected by a corporation, given	PM summon welling had been been been been been been been bee	ns and complaint. ouse or usual place ng a copy of the sun rson copies left with)	nmons and complaint to the person named
By delivering to the delivering a copy of the person of suitable age. As the defendant is a below. Name And Address Of Personal Control of Service. Defendant WAS NOT service.	efendant named above the summons and compete and discretion then recorporation, service was son With Whom Copies Left (i	AM [a a copy of the plaint at the desiding therein as effected by a corporation, given	PM summon welling had been been been been been been been bee	Name Of Defendant Ins and complaint. Iouse or usual place Ing a copy of the sun Inson copies left with)	nmons and complaint to the person named
By delivering to the delivering a copy of the person of suitable age. As the defendant is a below. Name And Address Of Personal Control of Service. Defendant WAS NOT service.	efendant named above the summons and compete and discretion then recorporation, service was son With Whom Copies Left (i	AM [a a copy of the plaint at the desiding therein as effected by a corporation, given	PM summon welling had been been been been been been been bee	ns and complaint. ouse or usual place ng a copy of the sun rson copies left with)	nmons and complaint to the person named

C	TATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OUNTY OF MECKLENBURG	IN THE GENERAL COURT DISTRICT COU	
$\overline{\mathbf{P}}$	aintiff (Print or type your name here))	
	VS.	COMPLAINT FOR DIVO	RCE
D	efendant (Print or type spouse's name here)		
	The Plaintiff, complaining of the De	fendant, alleges:	
1.	The Plaintiff is a citizen and resident of		(county, state)
2.	The Defendant is a citizen and resident of	of	(county, state)
3.	The □ Plaintiff / □ Defendant has been months before the date this complaint was	a North Carolina resident for more than	
4.	The Plaintiff and Defendant were married	ed on	. (mm/dd/yyyy)
5.	The Plaintiff and Defendant separated on		
6.	At the time of separation, either Plaintiff		
7.	The parties have lived continuously separthe filing of this complaint and at no time formerly existed between them.	rate and apart for at least one year and	one day prior to
8.	There is/are child/children born of th	is marriage that is/are <u>now</u> minors und	er the age of 18.
	Full Name of Minor Child	Date of Birth (mm/dd/y	(עעעי
	Full Name of Minor Child	Date of Birth (mm/dd/y	(עעעי
	Full Name of Minor Child	Date of Birth (mm/dd/y	
	Full Name of Minor Child	Date of Birth (mm/dd/y	 VVV)
	The Plaintiff understands, once this divord Equitable Distribution of marital property alimony.	ce is granted, it will be too late to file a and/or marital debts, for spousal support	claim for ort, or for

 $\frac{\text{TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE TO COMPLETE THE COMPLAINT AND}}{\text{VERIFICATION}}$

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff respectfully asks the Court:

- 1. That the Plaintiff be granted an absolute divorce from the Defendant, and that the marriage existing between the Plaintiff and Defendant be dissolved.
- 2. That this verified complaint be treated as an affidavit for purposes of Summary Judgment.

3.	That the Plaintiff be allowed to resure a former last name):	ame the use of (check one if you would like to
	□ her maiden name	
	☐ the surname of a prior deceased h	usband
	☐ the surname of a prior living hush	oand by whom the Plaintiff has children by
•	☐ his premarriage surname (for mal	es <u>only</u>)
	The name the Plaintiff desires to res	sume is:
This t	he day of, _	
	Plaintiff's Signature	Plaintiff's Street Address
	() - Plaintiff's Telephone	Plaintiff's City, State, Zip Code
		DIVORCE VERIFICATION
	Ť	, being first duly sworn, deposes and
savs tl		r, that he/she has read and understood this
•		be true of his/her own personal knowledge, except for
those	matters and things set forth upon info	rmation and belief, and as to those matters and things
he/she	believes them to be true.	
	Plaintiff's Sig	gnature (Sign in the Presence of a Notary Public)
		, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Sworn to and subscribed before me to	this, day of,
	Notary Public	
Му со	mmission expires:	

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	File No.
County	In The General Court Of Justice
Name And Address Of Plaintiff	
VERSUS	SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT AFFIDAVIT
Name And Address Of Defendant	
	50 U.S.C. 3901 to 4
NOTE: Though this form may be used in a Chapter 45 Foreclosure a	action, it is not a substitute for the certification that may be required by G.S. 45-21.1
	AFFIDAVIT
[] The results from my use of that website are atta (NOTE: The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act Website is certificates are not installed on your computer, you may a the website. DoD security certificates were automatically not expect security alerts to appear with this website afte includes the following advice: "Most web browsers don't is for the user to install all of the DoD's public certificates	need above is not in military service.* te (https://scra.dmdc.osd.mil/) to determine the defendant's military status. ached. is a website maintained by the Department of Defense (DoD). If DoD security experience security alerts from your internet browser when you attempt to access or added to the computers of all Judicial Branch users, such that these users should extra July of 2015. As of June 22, 2016, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act Website come with the DoD certificates already installed. The best and most secure solution in their web browser.") ct Website and the following facts support my statement as to the
for a period of more than 30 consecutive days for purposes of	service as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or der a call to active service authorized by the President or the Secretary of Defense of responding to a national emergency; active service as a commissioned officer of cospheric Administration; any period of service during which a servicemember is other lawful cause. 50 U.S.C. 3911(2).
SWORN/AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE I	ME Date
te	Signature Of Affiant
nature Of Person Authorized To Administer Oaths	Name Of Affiant (type or print)
Deputy CSC Assistant CSC Clerk Of Superior Court Magistr	rate
Date My Commission Expires	
Servicemembers Civil Relief Act affidavit (whel	minal case in which the defendant has not made an appearance until a ther on this form or not) has been filed, and if it appears that the defendant udgment until such time that you have appointed an attorney to represent

(Over)

Information About Servicemembers Civil Relief Act Affidavits

1. Plaintiff to file affidavit

In any civil action or proceeding, including any child custody proceeding, in which the defendant does not make an appearance, the court, before entering judgment for the plaintiff, shall require the plaintiff to file with the court an affidavit—

- (A) stating whether or not the defendant is in military service and showing necessary facts to support the affidavit; or
- (B) if the plaintiff is unable to determine whether or not the defendant is in military service, stating that the plaintiff is unable to determine whether or not the defendant is in military service.

50 U.S.C. 3931(b)(1).

2. Appointment of attorney to represent defendant in military service

If in a civil action or proceeding in which the defendant does not make an appearance it appears that the defendant is in military service, the court may not enter a judgment until after the court appoints an attorney to represent the defendant. If an attorney appointed to represent a service member cannot locate the service member, actions by the attorney in the case shall not waive any defense of the service member or otherwise bind the service member. 50 U.S.C. 3931(b)(2). State funds are not available to pay attorneys appointed pursuant to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. To comply with the federal Violence Against Women Act and in consideration of G.S. 50B-2(a), 50C-2(b), and 50D-2(b), plaintiffs in Chapter 50B, Chapter 50C, and Chapter 50D proceedings should not be required to pay the costs of attorneys appointed pursuant to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. Plaintiffs in other types of actions and proceedings may be required to pay the costs of attorneys appointed pursuant to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. The allowance or disallowance of the ordering of costs will require a case-specific analysis.

3. Defendant's military status not ascertained by affidavit

If based upon the affidavits filed in such an action, the court is unable to determine whether the defendant is in military service, the court, before entering judgment, may require the plaintiff to file a bond in an amount approved by the court. If the defendant is later found to be in military service, the bond shall be available to indemnify the defendant against any loss or damage the defendant may suffer by reason of any judgment for the plaintiff against the defendant, should the judgment be set aside in whole or in part. The bond shall remain in effect until expiration of the time for appeal and setting aside of a judgment under applicable Federal or State law or regulation or under any applicable ordinance of a political subdivision of a State. The court may issue such orders or enter such judgments as the court determines necessary to protect the rights of the defendant under this Act. 50 U.S.C. 3931(b)(3).

4. Satisfaction of requirement for affidavit

The requirement for an affidavit above may be satisfied by a statement, declaration, verification, or certificate, in writing, subscribed and certified or declared to be true under penalty of perjury. 50 U.S.C. 3931(b)(4). The presiding judicial official will determine whether the submitted affidavit is sufficient.

5. Penalty for making or using false affidavit

A person who makes or uses an affidavit permitted under 50 U.S.C. 3931(b) (or a statement, declaration, verification, or certificate as authorized under 50 U.S.C. 3931(b)(4)) knowing it to be false, shall be fined as provided in title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. 50 U.S.C. 3931(c).

Set Two Documents:

Defendant Documents

The next two documents, "Defendant's Acceptance of Service of Process and General Appearance" and "Defendant's Answer to Divorce Complaint and Waiver" are used only if the Defendant accepts Service of Process. (See section on "Service of Process"). If the Defendant will not accept Service of Process, or if the Defendant has an attorney, you will not need these forms.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG	IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISIONCVD
Plaintiff (print or type your name here))	
VS.	DEFENDANT"S ANSWER TO DIVORCE COMPLAINT AND WAIVER
Defendant (print or type your spouse's name here)))	•
Defendant, being first duly sworn and an	swering the Complaint of Plaintiff, alleges:
1. Defendant admits each and every allegation of	contained in the Plaintiff's Complaint.
Defendant hereby waives his/her right to ame heretofore filed in this action.	end his/her Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint as
3. Defendant hereby waives his/her right to dem	nand a trial by jury.
4. Defendant hereby requests the Court to grant matrimony between Plaintiff and Defendant a Defendant's Answer thereto.	an absolute divorce dissolving the bonds of as prayed for in the Plaintiff's Complaint and
5. That the Defendant understands, once this div for Equitable Distribution of marital property alimony.	vorce is granted, it will be too late to file a claim and/or marital debts, for spousal support, or for
Defendant's Signat	ture
DEFENDANT'S ANSW	ER VERIFICATION
I, that he/she is the Defendant in this matter, that he/and knows the contents to be true of his/her own p and things set forth upon information and belief, a believes them to be true.	ersonal knowledge, except for those matters
Defendant's Signati	ure (Sign in the Presence of a Notary Public)
Sworn and subscribed before me this	_day of,,
	Notary Public
My commission expires:	

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG	IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
	CVD
Plaintiff (print or type your name here)))
vs.	 DEFENDANT'S ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS AND GENERAL APPEARANCE
Defendant (print or type your spouse's name here)))
admit and acknowledge that a copy of the sum was personally delivered to and received by n and complaint upon me by the Sheriff or othe provisions of G.S. 1A-1, Rule 4 (j) of the Normake a general appearance in the above-entitle	fustice, District Court Division of Mecklenburg
Defendant's Sig	gnature
DEFENDANT'S ACCE	PTANCE VERIFICATION
Acceptance of Service and General Appearance	, being first duly sworn, depose and says he/she has read and understood this Defendant's e and knows the contents to be true of his/her own and things set forth upon information and belief, wes them to be true.
Defendant's Sign	nature (Sign in the Presence of a Notary Public)
Sworn and subscribed before me this	day of
	Notary Public
My commission expires:	

STATE OF	NORTH CAROLINA	File No.		
	County	In The General Court Of Justice ☐ District ☐ Superior Court Division		
Name Of Plaintiff(s)		AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY		
	VERSUS	REGISTERED MAIL		
Name Of Defendant		☐ CERTIFIED MAIL ☐ DESIGNATED DELIVERY SERVICE G.S. 1-75.10(a)(5), (a)(6); 1A-1, Rule 4(j2)		
I, the undersigned,	did mail by registered mail (return receipt r	equested),		
	designated delivery service (de	livery receipt requested),		
a copy of the sumn	nons and complaint	(list)		
received by the defe		ove listed other document(s) <i>(check, if applicable)</i> were in fact, as evidenced by the attached original receipt.		
		Signature Of Plaintiff/Attorney		
SWORN/AFFIRM	ED AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME	,		
Date	Signature Of Person Authorized To Administer Oaths	Name (type or print)		
Title Of Person Authorized	l To Administer Oaths			
Notary	Date My Commission Expires			
SEAL	County Where Notarized			

Set Three Documents:

SETTING A COURT DATE

ONCE THE DIVORCE COMPLAINT HAS BEEN FILED, AND SERVICE HAS BEEN COMPLETED, IT IS SUGGESTED YOU WAIT THIRTY DAYS TO PASS TO ALLOW THE DEFENDANT TO FILE AN ANSWER. AFTER THAT PERIOD HAS PASSED, YOU MAY SET A DATE FOR YOUR DIVORCE TO BE SIGNED BY THE JUDGE.

Take your original and two copies of the Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing form to the Clerk's Office. The staff in the clerk's office will assign a court date to you. Once your date is determined, insert it in the Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing form. File the original and mail a copy to the defendant. Remember to keep one copy for your file.

NOTE: The defendant must be given at least thirteen (13) days notice of the court date. The date you select must be at least thirteen (13) days from the date you mail your Motion for Summary Judgment and Notice of Hearing.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA		In The General Court Of Justice ☐ District ☐ Superior Court Division			
County					
VERSUS			MOTION COVER SHEET		
Name Of Defendant					
Name And Address Of Attorney Or Party, I	If Not Represent	ed (complete for initial	Rule 5(b), Rules of Practice For Superior and District Co		
ppouronoc or change of address)	÷				
			Telephone No.	FA	X No.
ttorney Bar No.			<u> </u>		
Committee and the committee of the commi	Shifted Assessment Programmed			ppearance in Case	☐ Change of Addre
Type of Motion		MO.	TION		
Type of Motion (For each motion, enter code for Type of Motion from list on reverse side; if OTHR, describe motion)		By (Identify Party)		Again	nst (Identify Party)
	□ AII			□ AII	
	□AII		-	□ All	
•	│□AⅡ		□ All		
	□AII	·	□ All		
	□AII		□ All ·		
	□AII				
	□AII			All	•
	□All			□AII	
	□AII		□ All		
	□ AII.			□ AII	
	□ AII .			□ AII	
	□ AII			□AII	
	All			□AII	
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	□ AII			□ All	
	□ AII			□ All	
	P.AII			□.AII	
	□ AII			□ AII	•
	□ AII			□ All .	
	□ AII			□AII	
	□ ÁII □			□AII	
	□ AII			□ All	
	□ AII		nalure Of Allorney	□ AII	

IOTE: All fillings in civil actions shall include as the first page of the filling a cover sheet summarizing the critical elements of the filling in a format prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Clerk of Superior Court shall require a party to refile a filling which does not include the required cover sheet. For subsequent fillings in civil actions, the filling party must either include a Motions (AOC-CV-752), General Civil (AOC-CV-751), or Court Action (AOC-CV-753) cover sheet.

TYPES OF MOTIONS Add Additional Party (ADDP) Lack Jurisdiction (Subject Matter) (LJSM) Amend (AMND) Lack Jurisdiction (Person) (LJPN) Assert Right Of Access (ARAS) Limit Deposition (LDEP) Attorney Fee (ATFE) Modification Of Alimony (MALI) Change Of Venue (CHVN) Modification Of Child Support In IV-D Actions (MSUP) Claim Exemptions (CDEX) Modification Of Custody (MCUS) Compel (CMPL) Modification Of Support (MSUP) Consolidation (CNSL) Modification Of Visitation (MVIS) Contempt (CNTP) More Definite Statement (Rule 12) (MDST) Continue (CNTN) Motion For Out-Of-State Attorney To Appear In NC Court Costs (COST) Courts In A Civil Or Criminal Matter Default Judgment (DEFJ) New Trial (NTRL) Deposition (DEPO) Objection Of Exemptions Claimed (OEXC) Designate A Mediator (DSMD) Other (OTHR) (describe on front) Disburse Funds (DFND) Petition To Sue As Indigent (OTHR) Dismiss (Involuntary) (DISM) Preliminary Injunction (PREL) Entry Of Default (EODF) Quash (QUSH) Ex Parte Restraining (EXPR) Release From Stay Of Execution (RSEX) Exempt From Arbitration (EXAR) Sanctions (SANC) -Exempt/Waive-Mediation-(EXMD)-Selection Of Mediator By Agreement (SMAP) Extension Of Time (EXTM) Set Aside (VCMD) Failure To Join Necessary Party (FJNP) Sever Issues Or Claims (SICL) Failure To State A Claim (FASC) Show Cause (SHOW) Implementation Of Wage Withholding In Non-IV-D Cases (OTHR) Special Practice In NC (ADMP) Improper Venue/Division (IMVN) Stay Of Execution (STEX) Strike (STRK) Substitution Of Trustee (Judicial Foreclosure) (RSOT) Summary Judgment (SUMJ)

Supplemental Procedures (SUPR)

Temporary Restraining Order (TROR)

Withdraw As Counsel (WDCN)

Vacate/Modify Judgment Or Order (VCMD)

Voluntary Dismissal With Or Without Prejudice (VOLD)

Transfer (TRFR)

In Limine (ILIM) In The Cause (INTC) Increase Bond (INBN)

Insufficiency Of Process (INPR)

Insufficiency Of Service Of Process (INSP)

Interplead (INTP) Intervene (INTR) Join (JOIN)

Judgment On Pleading (JOPL)

Jury View (JRVW)

FEES IN G.S. 7A-308 APPLY

Assert Right Of Access (ARAS)

Substitution Of Trustee (Judicial Foreclosure) (RSOT)

Supplemental Procedures (SUPR)

PRO HAC VICE FEES APPLY

Motion For Out-of-State Attorney To Appear In NC Courts In A Civil Or Criminal Matter

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG	IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISIONCVD
Plaintiff (print or type your name here)))
vs.)	MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND NOTICE OF HEARING
Defendant (print or type your spouse's name here))	
The Plaintiff moves that the Court gran absolute divorce based on the verified pleading	nt Summary Judgment for the Plaintiff, for an gs and affidavits.
Notice is hereby given to the Defendant heard on// (mm/dd/yyyy), a may be heard, in Courtroom 6330 of the Meck Charlotte, North Carolina.	at that the Motion for Summary Judgment will be at 9:00 A.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter clenburg County Courthouse, 832 E. 4 th Street,
Notice is further given that the only issifinal divorce based on the verified pleadings are will be heard. The parties are not required to	ue that will be decided is whether or not to grant a nd affidavits. No live testimony or oral arguments appear at the hearing.
Once the divorce is granted, the Plainting Judgment to the Defendant.	ff will mail a Certified copy of the Divorce
This the day of ,	
This the day of,,,,	Plaintiff's Signature
CTD MYEY O L	
CERTIFICAT	TE OF SERVICE
I hereby certify that I have served this M Hearing on the Defendant by delivering a copy Notice of Hearing to the US Postal Service, in a Defendant as follows:	Notion for Summary Judgment and Notice of of this Motion for Summary Judgment and an envelope with postage paid, addressed to the
Name:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
This the day of, date month (spelled out) year	Plaintiff's Signature

CERTIFICATE OF ABSOLUTE DIVORCE

This form is required by the state. Your divorce order will not be given to you until you file the original of this form.

NOTE: If This Form Is Not Filled Out, or Is Not Filled Out Accurately And Completely, The Judge Will Not Sign Your Divorce!

PLEASE USE BLACK INK ONLY ON THIS FORM!

This form is located in the SelfServe Center between the hours of 8:30 AM and 12:00 PM. After those hours, the form may be picked up at the Clerk of Court / Civil Office.

N.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES N.C. VITAL RECORDS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA CERTIFICATE OF ABSOLUTE DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT

File I	Number:		County:				
		PL	AINTIFF			·	
1.	☐ Husband/Spouse☐ Wife/Spouse	FIRST		MIDDLE	LAS	ST	
RESI	DENCE - STATE	H-1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.1.	·	COUNTY			
2a.				2b			
		DEF	ENDANT				
3.	☐ Husband/Spouse☐ Wife/Spouse	FIRST		MIDDLE	LAS	Т	
RESID	DENCE - STATE			COUNTY			
4a.				4b.			•
DATE	OF THIS MARRIAGE	MAR	RRIAGE	DI ACE OF THIS A	MARRIAGE		
5.			PLACE OF THIS MARRIAGE 6.				
NUMB	ER OF MINOR CHILDREN		DATE OF SEPARATION				
7.				8.			
		Garni	CATION	1			
	certify that the above information as a						
natter on the		day of	***************************************		/ear		
	Date		Cler	k of Superior Court	■ Assistant CSC	Deputy CS	С
IHS 2089 C. Vital Re	(Revised 11/18) ccords						

ואאפ פו אוווו וווי permanent black ink.

After printing form, please cut on dashed line to create a form with the dimensions of 8.5 inches by 7 inches.

Judgment of Divorce

Please review this form. This form is for the Judge to use to make his/her final order in your case. You should insert the names of the parties and the case number and complete numbers three, six and complete number seven <u>only</u> if you are resuming a maiden name.

Please have this document added to your court file prior to getting your court date.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG	IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISIONCVD
Plaintiff (print or type name here)	
vs.) JUDGMENT OF DIVORCE)
Defendant (print or type your spouse's name here)))))
	•
 properly noticed of the trial of this action The □ Plaintiff and/or □ Defendant is a circular such for more than six months next preceded. The Plaintiff and Defendant were married the institution of this action. There were minor children (fill in the first when plaintiff requests name characteristics). 	receding the institution of this action. with the Summons and Complaint in this action, and as provided by law. Itizen and resident of North Carolina and has been ding the institution of this action. It to each other. Exparate and apart for more than one year preceding """ or number of children) of the marriage. "" """ ange) That the plaintiff is allowed to resume use of
Plaintiff is entitled to a divorce from the deferrance fact in this matter.	ndant. There is no genuine issue as to any material
matrimony heretofore existing between the Pl	JUDGED AND DECREED that the bonds of laintiff and the Defendant be, and the same are hereby are granted an absolute divorce from each other.
This the day of	
Judge Presidi	ng